

SRI MOHAMED ALI.—The total number of fleets owned by KSRTC is 3,600 and a similar number is owned by private operators. But KSRTC is having 4,600 routes whereas they are operating only on 1,400 routes and they select remunerative routes. The KSRTC is meant for public utility service.

SRI A. K. ANWAR.—About 800 and odd people working in the foundry and another 150 people working in bamboo section have not been included. Will the Government look into the matter and see that all these people are included?

SRI S. M. YAHYA.—The figure given is as per the definition of contract labour.

SRI A. K. ANWAR.—They also come under contract labour. Will the Government see that they are also included?

SRI S. M. YAHYA.—Since the hon. member has brought this to my notice, I will look into it.

#### IMPLEMENTATION OF WAGE BOARDS RECOMMENDATIONS

390. SRI M. S. KRISHNAN (Malleswaram)—

Will the Minister for Excise and Labour be pleased to state.

(a) whether and representation has been received by the Government from the employees employed in the newspaper industry, working journalists and non-working journalists, complaining about non implementation of the Wage Board's Recommendations and demand for interim relief.

(b) if so, the steps the Government has taken to solve the grievances of these employees?

SRI S. M. YAHYA (Minister for Excise and Labour)—

(a) Yes.

(b) The Labour Commissioner is actively looking into the grievances of these employees with a view to remedy the situation speedily.

SRI M. S. KRISHNAN.—The recommendations of the Wage Board have not been implemented in respect of non-working Journalists. May I know what steps are taken to see that they are implemented?

SRI S. M. YAHYA.—The recommendations of the Wage Board are mandatory regarding Working Journalists and recommendatory regarding non-working Journalists. The Government took lot of interest both regarding recommendatory and mandatory provisions

and the Honble Chief Minister convened two meetings with the representatives of the Management as well as the Union and discussed the matter with regard to the important demands, viz, (1) interim relief, (2) its implementation and (3) regarding a New Wage Board. As far as the need of the interim relief is concerned, the Government is of the view that the need is there. The only question is about the quantum, and the same will have to be decided.

SRI M. S. KRISHNAN.—Is the Honble Minister aware that while Samyukta Karnataka has offered some interim relief, others like Deccan Herald and Prajavani have not yet offered any such relief? What steps are taken by the Government to see that this interim relief is given by other organisations also.

SRI S. M. YAHYA.—After the meeting the Honble Chief Minister has directed the Labour Commissioner to review each case. As far as Samyukta Karnataka is concerned, they have fully implemented the recommendations regarding Working Journalists. The Indian Express also have implemented the recommendations of the Wage Board. Now the matter is before the Labour Commissioner regarding Deccan Herald, and it is being reviewed.

SRI M. S. KRISHNAN.—Is the Honble Minister aware that in regard to mofussil correspondents the recommendation has yet been implemented and no action has been taken by the Government though it was brought to their notice.

SRI S. M. YAHYA.—We have directed the Assistant Labour Commissioner, Hubli as well as South Kanara to look into the matter, regarding Udayavani and Navabharata in South Kanara and Vishala Karnataka and Vishavani in Dharwar District.

SRI M. S. KRISHNAN.—Is the Honble Minister aware that just because the working and non working Journalists had demanded interim relief and constitution of Wage Board several of them have been terminated both in Prajavani and Indian Express and if it is brought to the notice of the Government, what action will be taken?

SRI S. M. YAHYA.—In the case of specific instances, we will take action according to law.

#### DECLARING KOLAR DISTRICT AS INDUSTRIALLY BACKWARD

418 SRI CHOWDA REDDY (Chintamani).—Will the Minister of Industries and Parliamentary Affairs be pleased to state :—

the difficulties for the Government to declare the Kolar District as Industrially backward district?